

## **Amendments to the Specification:**

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 3, please insert the following:

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 3 and ends on line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a method providing protection from unauthorized access to a field device used in process automation technology[[,]] ~~as defined in the preamble of claim 1.~~

On page 1, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 6, please insert the following:

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 30 and ends on page 2, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Signal transmission between field device and control unit can proceed in analog or digital form, known standards being ~~Hart®, Profibus®, Foundation Fieldbus® or CAN®-Bus~~ HART®, PROFIBUS®, FOUNDATION FIELDBUS® or CAN®-BUS. In many cases, the data bus is connected with a superordinated, company network. Between the data bus (field bus) and the company network, a controller serves as gateway. Via the company network, especially process observation, as well as process visualization and engineering, are accomplished by means of appropriate computer units.

On page 3, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 12, please insert the following:

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please delete the paragraph which appears on page 3, line 16.

Please delete the paragraph which appears on page 3, lines 23 and 24.

On page 3, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 25, please insert the following:

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 3, line 27 and ends on page 4, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 1 shows a process control system which includes a data bus [[5]] and a company network 15 connected together by way of a controller [[7]] (linking device)[[.]] : and  
~~Connected to the data bus 5-~~

Fig. 2 illustrates a function block, which has defined communication interfaces.

#### Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Connected to the data bus 5 (field bus) are various sensors S1, S2, S3, S4, which serve for determining the fill level, height h, of a liquid in a container 1. Also arranged on container 1 is a display unit 4. Data bus 5 is, furthermore, connected with a remote I/O unit 9, which allows the connecting of various 4 to 20 mA measuring devices.

Please delete lines 9 and 10 on page 4.